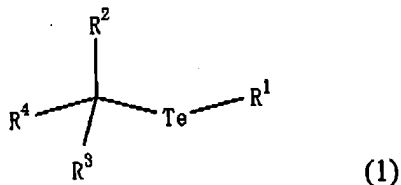


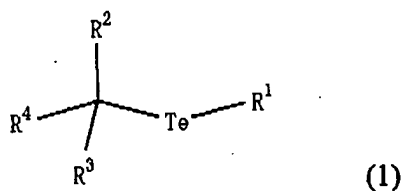
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) An organotellurium compound represented by the formula (1)

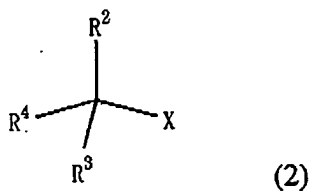


wherein R^1 is C_1 - C_8 alkyl, R^2 and R^3 are each a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, and R^4 is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that R^2 and R^3 are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom;

2. (Previously presented) A process for preparing an organotellurium compound of the formula (1) comprising reacting a compound of the formula (2), a compound of the formula (3) and metallic tellurium



wherein R^1 is C_1 - C_8 alkyl, R^2 and R^3 are each a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, and R^4 is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that R^2 and R^3 are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom;



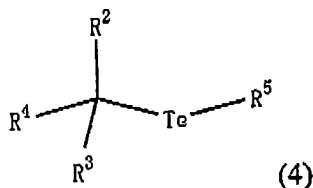
wherein R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are as defined above, and X is a halogen atom



wherein R^1 is as defined above, M is an alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or copper atom, and m is 1 when M is an alkali metal, m is 2 when M is an alkaline earth metal, or m is 1 or 2 when M is a copper atom.

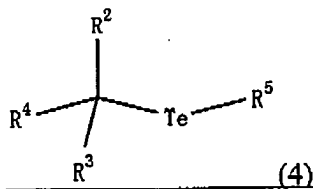
3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A living radical polymerization initiator of the formula (4)



wherein R^5 is C_1 - C_8 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group, R^2 and R^3 are each a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, and R^4 is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that R^2 and R^3 are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

5. (Currently Amended/Withdrawn) A process for producing a living radical polymer characterized by comprising polymerizing a vinyl monomer with use of a compound of the formula (4) as a living radical polymerization initiator,

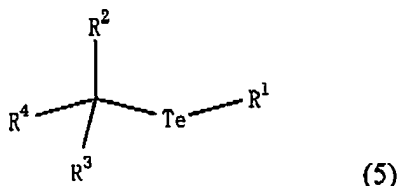


wherein R^5 is C_1 - C_8 alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group, R^2 and R^3 are each a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_8 alkyl, and R^4 is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic

heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that R² and R³ are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

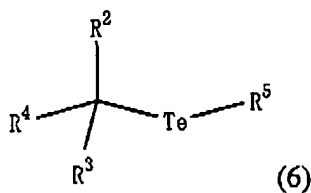
6-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) An organotellurium compound as defined in claim 1, represented by the formula (5)



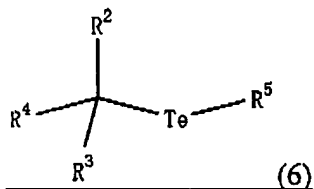
wherein R¹ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, R² and R³ are each a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₈ alkyl, and R⁴ is cyano, provided that R² and R³ are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

11. (Previously presented) A living radical polymerization initiator as defined in claim 4, represented by the formula (6)



wherein R⁵ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group, R² and R³ are each a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₈ alkyl, and R⁴ is cyano, provided that R² and R³ are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

12. (Currently Amended/Withdrawn) A process for producing a living radical polymer as defined in claim 5 ~~characterized by~~ comprising polymerizing a vinyl monomer with use of a compound of the formula (6) as a living radical polymerization initiator,



wherein R⁵ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group, R² and R³ are each a hydrogen atom or C₁-C₈ alkyl, and R⁴ is cyano, provided that R² and R³ are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

13-22. (Cancelled)